

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-15 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10
/123 W

-----231333 011222 /44

R 231223Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7356

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1045

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAITI INITIATIVE ON OIL PRICE COMPROMISE AND
SENSITIVITY TO SYRIAN CRITICISM ON OIL PRICES

1. KUWAIT RADIO REPORT OF FEB 22 INDICATES THAT
KUWAITI MFA UNDERSEC RASHID AL-RASHID IS IN TEHRAN AS PART
OF SWING THROUGH SEVERAL GULF PETROLEUM PRODUCING COUNTRIES.
LOCAL PRESS ALSO NOTES THAT AL-RASHID HAD FLOWN TO
QATAR FEB 21 TO SEE OFFICIALS THERE, AND WOULD FLY ON TO
TEHRAN AND BAGHDAD, "FOR THE SAKE OF" OPEC UNITY. ONE
PRESS REPORT ASSERTED THAT AL-RASHID IS CARRYING MESSAGES
FROM THE GOK ON OPEC MATTERS AND ANOTHER STORY WAS TO THE
EFFECT THAT ON FEB 21 THE KUWAITI FONMIN TELEPHONED HIS
COUNTERPARTS IN THE UAE AND BAHRAIN (SIC) TO PUSH FOR
OIL PRICE COMPROMISE. KUWAITI PRESS ARTICLES ON FEB 23
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SUGGEST THAT THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR IN KUWAIT WAS
INFORMED OF KUWAIT'S INITIATIVE ON FEB 22, BY KUWAITI OILMIN
KAZEMI; THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR IS REPORTEDLY CALLING ON
KUWAITI FONMIN FEBRUARY 23 TO DISCUSS OIL PRICES.

2. COMMENTING ON SAUDI OILMIN YAMANI'S REAFFIRMATION
OF SAUDI INTENTION TO HOLD TO 5 PERCENT OIL PRICE

INCREASE, KUWAIT OFFICIAL SOURCES REPORTEDLY CALLED SAUDI POSITION "CONTRADICTORY," NOTING THAT SAG PREVIOUSLY HAD SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO ATTENDING A NEW OPEC CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE ON OIL PRICES. SAME KUWAITI SOURCES, QUOTED IN KUWAIT DAILY AL WATAN (FEB 23), NOTED THAT THE OPEC-11 NOW HAS A "TWELFTH MEMBER," THE BAD WEATHER IN EUROPE AND U.S., WHICH IS EATING UP PETROLEUM STOCKS LAID AWAY IN LATE 1976 AND CAUSING EXPORTS TO REVIVE EARLIER IN 1977 THAN PREDICTED.

3. KUWAITI CABINET MINISTER HUSSEIN, IN AN APPARENT RESPONSE TO SYRIAN BAATHI MEDIA CRITICISM OF OIL RICH ARABS RAISING PRICES FOR POOR ARAB COUNTRIES, IS REPORTED TO HAVE EMPHASIZED TO PRESS HERE THAT KUWAIT IS "PERFORMING ITS FULL DUTY" IN SUPPORTING THE "CONFRONTATION COUNTRIES," AND THAT INCREASED OPEC OIL PRICES ARE "PURELY ECONOMIC PROCESS." HUSSEIN IS REPORTED TO HAVE REMINDED THE CONFRONTATION STATES THAT OPEC'S ARAB MEMBERS CANNOT GIVE SPECIAL OIL RATES TO ARAB BROTHERS BECAUSE "OPEC HAS NON-ARAB MEMBERS" WHO WOULD BE UPSET, AND HE NOTED THAT, IN LIEU OF THIS, THE OPEC HAS A SPECIAL FUND TO HELP ARAB OIL CONSUMERS FACE THE PRICE RISE. HUSSEIN ALSO ARGUED THAT ARAB OIL STATES CANNOT MEET THEIR COMMITMENTS TO CONFRONTATION STATES UNLESS THE FORMER RAISE OIL PRICES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, PRICES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT01045
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770062-0900
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770218/aaaaapwm.tel
Line Count: 87
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: KUWAITI INITIATIVE ON OIL PRICE COMPROMISE AND SENSITIVITY TO SYRIAN CRITICISM ON OIL PRICES
TAGS: ENRG, KU, OPEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/433261c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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